

RULE CHANGE 2026(15)

RULES GOVERNING ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW IN COLORADO

Rule 203.6

Rule 203.6. Applications for Supervised Admission to Colorado Based on UBE Score and Qualifying Governmental Service and Nonprofit Legal Service

(1) Eligibility. An applicant who takes the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) and does not achieve a passing score for admission in Colorado but otherwise would be fully eligible for admission under C.R.C.P. 203.3 or C.R.C.P. 203.4 may be eligible for Supervised Admission, as defined in this Rule, in Colorado if the applicant satisfies all of the following conditions:

(a) the applicant has achieved a UBE score that qualifies for admission in another United States jurisdiction, having earned that qualifying score on an exam administered within 18 months of applying under this Rule;

(b) the applicant has achieved a Multi-State Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) score deemed a passing score by the Colorado Supreme Court during the time frame set forth in C.R.C.P. 203.4(8);

(c) the applicant is currently a member in good standing in all jurisdictions where admitted, if any;

(d) the applicant is not currently subject to attorney discipline or the subject of a pending disciplinary matter in any jurisdiction;

(e) the applicant possesses the character and fitness required of all applicants for admission to the practice of law in Colorado as set forth in C.R.C.P. 208, and has not been denied admission in another jurisdiction due to that jurisdiction's character and fitness review;

(f) the applicant pays the required application fee under C.R.C.P. 203.3 or 203.4, as applicable;

(g) the applicant is, or within 91 days of admission under this Rule will be, employed full-time by one of the following qualifying organizations to engage in the active practice of law: the Colorado Office of the Public Defender; a district attorney's office in the state of Colorado; or Colorado Legal Services;

(h) the applicant is, or will be upon employment of a qualifying organization under paragraph (1)(g)), working under the supervision of an attorney who agrees to the following requirements:

(i) the supervisory attorney is authorized to practice law in Colorado, is in good standing in all jurisdictions of licensure, and has no disciplinary history in any jurisdiction of licensure;

(ii) the supervisory attorney is working for or on behalf of an organization specified in paragraph (1)(g);

(iii) the supervisory attorney executes and files with the Office of Attorney Admissions, before the applicant begins practicing law under this Rule, a certification within 14 days of the commencement of the supervisory relationship that the supervisor agrees to all supervisory

responsibilities under the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct, including reasonable efforts to ensure the competency and diligence of the applicant's practice of law;

(iv) the supervisory attorney confirms that the qualifying organization has acknowledged its notification obligations under this Rule, specifically that the employer will notify the Office of Attorney Admissions within 14 days of the date an applicant ceases to be employed or has a change of status that precludes the applicant from being eligible under this Rule or engaged in the active practice of law; and

(v) if a supervisory attorney ceases to serve in that capacity for any reason, the qualifying organization designates a successor supervisory attorney meeting the requirements of this paragraph (1)(h), and the successor files the certification required by paragraph (1)(h)(iii), within 21 days.

(2) **Professionalism Course.** All applicants under this Rule must complete the course on professionalism as described in C.R.C.P. 203.1(8), prior to and as a condition of admission under this Rule. Credit for completion of the professionalism course will be valid for eighteen months following completion of the course.

(3) Two-Year Supervision and Transition to Unrestricted Admission Status.

(a) An applicant admitted under this Rule must take the Oath of Admission pursuant to C.R.C.P. 211.3 to obtain a license to practice law. Once the applicant takes the Oath, the individual is a licensed attorney in Colorado with restrictions on the attorney's authority to practice law pursuant to this Rule.

(b) An attorney admitted under this Rule must, within three years after the date of admission, complete an aggregate of two years of employment in which the attorney is actively engaged in the authorized practice of law working for one or more qualifying organizations identified in paragraph (1)(g) of this Rule. Periods of leave or interruptions in continuous employment that when aggregated amount to more than 28 days during each 12-month period, as calculated from the start date of first employment under this Rule, do not count toward the years of employment required by this Rule.

(c) An attorney admitted under this Rule must notify the Office of Attorney Registration within 14 days of any change of employment and provide, among any other requested updates, a business telephone number, mailing address and email address. The attorney must meet the remaining registration obligations under C.R.C.P. 227 in order to maintain the attorney's license and authority to practice.

(d) An attorney admitted under this Rule must meet continuing legal education obligations under C.R.C.P. 250 et seq. in order to maintain the attorney's license and authority to practice.

(e) An attorney admitted under this Rule may not practice law outside of the employment for one of the qualifying organizations identified in paragraph (1)(g) until the attorney has submitted an affidavit satisfying the requirements of paragraph (3)(g) of this Rule.

(f) An attorney admitted under this Rule is subject to the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct and C.R.C.P. 241-243 (Rules Governing Lawyer Discipline and Disability Proceedings).

(g) In order for an attorney admitted under this Rule to transition to unrestricted authority to practice law in Colorado, within 56 days after completion of two aggregate years of qualifying employment under this Rule, the attorney must submit an affidavit to the Office of Attorney Admissions in the form provided by the Office detailing satisfaction of the employment requirements of this Rule. The affidavit must be accompanied by a certification from each supervisory attorney, or from a knowledgeable senior official within the attorney's qualifying organization, confirming the periods of qualifying employment and supervision. Failure to timely submit such an affidavit may result in the revocation of authority to practice law in Colorado.

(4) Suspension of Authority to Practice Under Supervised Admission.

(a) If an attorney is admitted under this Rule and has not achieved unrestricted authority to practice law pursuant to paragraph (3)(g) of this Rule, the authority to practice law in Colorado automatically is administratively suspended:

(i) when the attorney ceases to be employed by one of the qualifying organizations identified in paragraph (1)(g) of this Rule without becoming employed by another qualifying organization within 14 days of the last date of prior employment;

(ii) when the attorney's supervisor fails to provide a certification required by paragraph (1)(h)(iii) or a successor designation required by paragraph (1)(h)(v) within the time required;

(iii) on the date of administrative suspension in Colorado under C.R.C.P. 227 or C.R.C.P. 250.7, or any interim or nondisciplinary suspension under C.R.C.P. 242 et seq.;

(iv) on the effective date of any suspension of the attorney in any jurisdiction for failure to pay child support or failure to cooperate in a disciplinary matter; or

(v) on the effective date of any stayed or served disciplinary suspension, disbarment or placement on disability inactive status in any jurisdiction, court, or agency before which the attorney is admitted.

(b) An attorney admitted under this Rule whose authority to practice is suspended under paragraph (4)(a)(i)-(iv) may again become authorized to practice by demonstrating to the satisfaction of the Office of Attorney Registration that the attorney has cured the events that caused or continue to cause a cessation of authorized practice. The duration of the lapse in

authority to practice under this Rule does not count toward the required two years of employment engaged in the active practice of law with one or more qualifying organizations.

(c) An attorney admitted under this Rule whose authority to practice is suspended under paragraph (4)(a)(v) may again become authorized to practice by completing all conditions that accompany the disciplinary order and, if required, reinstating or becoming readmitted in the jurisdiction in question, but the three-year deadline for completing supervised admission under this Rule may be extended only by order of the Supreme Court.

(5) Revocation of Supervised Admission and Termination of Authority to Practice.

Admission under this Rule will be automatically suspended on an interim basis if the attorney has been admitted under this Rule for three years without demonstrating completion of the two years of qualifying employment. Such attorneys will have 28 days from the date of suspension to cure any deficiencies. After 28 days from the date of suspension, if such suspension is not cured admission under this Rule will be automatically revoked. Attorneys subject to such revocation are no longer authorized to practice law in Colorado, and they will be deemed to have resigned their license and will be ineligible for readmission under this Rule. Such attorneys may petition under C.R.C.P. 206 for an extension of time to complete their qualifying employment or may apply for admission under C.R.C.P. 203.3 or C.R.C.P. 203.4.

(6) Sunset and Savings. Because this Rule operates as a pilot program, the time for filing applications for admission under this Rule will automatically sunset on July 1, 2029, unless extended or amended by the Colorado Supreme Court. An application pending on that date will be processed to completion. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Rule continues to govern each attorney admitted under it until the attorney has transitioned to unrestricted authority to practice law under paragraph (3)(g) of this Rule or the attorney's authority to practice under this Rule has terminated.

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(f) the applicant pays the required application fee under C.R.C.P. 203.3 or 203.4, as applicable;

(g) the applicant is, or within 91 days of admission under this Rule will be, employed full-time by one of the following qualifying organizations to engage in the active practice of law: the Colorado Office of the Public Defender; a district attorney's office in the state of Colorado; or Colorado Legal Services;

(h) the applicant is, or will be upon employment of a qualifying organization under paragraph (1)(g)), working under the supervision of an attorney who agrees to the following requirements:

(i) the supervisory attorney is authorized to practice law in Colorado, is in good standing in all jurisdictions of licensure, and has no disciplinary history in any jurisdiction of licensure;

(ii) the supervisory attorney is working for or on behalf of an organization specified in paragraph (1)(g);

(iii) the supervisory attorney executes and files with the Office of Attorney Admissions, before the applicant begins practicing law under this Rule, a certification within 14 days of the commencement of the supervisory relationship that the supervisor agrees to all supervisory

responsibilities under the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct, including reasonable efforts to ensure the competency and diligence of the applicant's practice of law;

(iv) the supervisory attorney confirms that the qualifying organization has acknowledged its notification obligations under this Rule, specifically that the employer will notify the Office of Attorney Admissions within 14 days of the date an applicant ceases to be employed or has a change of status that precludes the applicant from being eligible under this Rule or engaged in the active practice of law; and

(v) if a supervisory attorney ceases to serve in that capacity for any reason, the qualifying organization designates a successor supervisory attorney meeting the requirements of this paragraph (1)(h), and the successor files the certification required by paragraph (1)(h)(iii), within 21 days.

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Amended and Adopted by the Court, En Banc, October 8, 2026, effective October 12, 2026.

By the Court:

**William W. Hood, III
Justice, Colorado Supreme Court**